

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture 4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112-2875

<u>Upcoming survey</u> information is contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

Contact: Kevin Pautler, 717-787-3904 nass-pa@nass.usda.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA/NASS to Conduct Annual Mushroom Survey

HARRISBURG, PA, Apr 22, 2011 - - USDA/NASS is again conducting the Mushroom Inquiry to document the past growing year. All mushroom growers will be contacted about growing area, production, and value of sales for the growing year of 2010 to 2011, as well as growing intentions for the coming year. Growers should receive a questionnaire around July first. If you do not receive a questionnaire, please contact the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA/NASS at 800-498-1518 or the NASS Headquarters at 800-727-9540. Those not responding by mail will be contacted either by phone or in person during early July.

It is important that all mushroom growers participate in the Mushroom Survey so that accurate statistics on the mushroom industry are published. Mushroom statistics are used to help support the industry in many ways. All individual operation information is kept confidential and protected from freedom of information act requests.

Last year, Pennsylvania mushroom growers produced 501.2 million pounds of Agaricus mushrooms, down 4 percent from the 2008-2009 growing season. Of these, 409 million pounds were sold for the fresh market. All fresh market sales tallied \$388.3 million for the season.

Additionally, Pennsylvania growers supplied 92 million pounds of Agaricus mushrooms for processing. Commonwealth mushroom growers produced 64 percent of all Agaricus mushrooms grown in the United States, making Pennsylvania the number one producer of mushrooms in the country. These figures were taken from the 2010 U.S. Department of Agriculture's, National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA/NASS) Mushroom Report. The entire report is available via the internet at http://www.nass.usda.gov. This year's survey results will be available on August 19, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

All growers who complete the mushroom questionnaire will receive a copy of the release for their records. Additional information about the Pennsylvania Mushroom Report can be obtained by contacting the Pennsylvania Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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